

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims

A listing of the entire set of pending claims is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A lighting system ~~provided with a light-emitting panel~~ comprising:
a light-emitting panel comprising a front wall, a rear wall situated opposite thereto, and
~~furthermore,~~ between the front and the rear wall, a first edge surface and, opposite thereto, a
second edge surface, the first edge surface being light-transmitting, and
~~while at least~~ a first light source ~~[[is]]~~ associated with the first edge surface, ~~and such~~
~~that, while,~~ in operation, light originating from the first light source is incident on the first edge
surface and distributes itself in the panel,

wherein the light-emitting panel widens over

(i) a first widening section from the first edge surface in a direction towards
the second edge surface and

(ii) a second widening section from the second edge surface in a direction
towards the first edge surface,

wherein the surface of the second edge surface is specularly or diffusely
reflecting ~~or is provided specularly or diffusely reflecting material,~~ and

wherein the light-emitting panel comprises, between the first widening section
and the second edge surface, a light guide part including a structure configured for
providing ~~bi-directional~~ light extraction.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a ratio of the surface area S_1 of the first edge surface and the largest cross section S_{1cs} in the light-emitting panel substantially parallel to the first edge surface satisfies the relation:

$$1.5 < \frac{S_{1cs}}{S_1} < 3 .$$

4-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A lighting system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the rear wall is provided over the widening section with the structure that includes a multiplicity of steps having surfaces that face the front wall and are substantially parallel to the front wall, and wherein a further surface of the steps makes an angle β with respect to a normal on the front wall, wherein $-48 \leq \beta \leq 48^\circ$.

8. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the angle β is in the range $0 \leq \beta \leq 48^\circ$.

9. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the front wall comprises ~~is provided with~~ a translucent diffuser.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A lighting system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the rear wall of the light-emitting panel ~~at the bi-directional light extracting light guide part~~ is provided with a the structure to extract the light by disrupting total internal reflection locally.

12. (Currently Amended) A lighting system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the structure ~~on the rear wall at the bi-directional light extracting light guide part~~ is formed by a multitude of steps of which a surface facing the front wall is substantially parallel to the front wall.

13. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the light source comprises one white LED or at least two light-emitting diodes with different light emission wavelengths.

14. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in claim 13, wherein each of the light-emitting diodes has a luminous flux of at least 5 lm.

15. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display ~~device provided with~~ comprising a lighting system as claimed in claim 1.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A lighting system ~~provided with a light-emitting panel~~ comprising a light-emitting panel, comprising a front wall, a rear wall situated opposite thereto, and ~~furthermore,~~ between the front and the rear wall, a first edge surface and, opposite thereto, a second edge surface, the first edge surface being light-transmitting, ~~while at least~~ a first light source ~~[[is]]~~ associated with the first edge surface, such that ~~and while,~~ in operation, light originating from the first light source is incident on the first edge surface and distributes itself in the panel,

wherein the light-emitting panel widens over a widening section from the first edge surface in a direction towards the second edge surface,

wherein the rear wall is provided over the widening section with a multiplicity of steps of which a surface facing the front wall is substantially parallel to the front wall,

wherein the second edge surface is light-transmitting, a second light source being associated with the second edge surface,

wherein, in operation, light originating from the second light source is incident on the second edge surface and distributes itself in the panel, and

wherein the light-emitting panel widens over from the second edge surface in a direction towards the first edge surface.

18. (Currently Amended) A lighting system ~~provided with a light-emitting panel~~ comprising: a light-emitting panel comprising a front wall, a rear wall situated opposite thereto, and ~~furthermore~~, between the front and the rear wall, a first edge surface and, opposite thereto, a second edge surface, the first edge surface being light-transmitting,

~~while at least~~ a first light source ~~[[is]]~~ associated with the first edge surface, such that ~~and while~~, in operation, light originating from the first light source is incident on the first edge surface and distributes itself in the panel,

wherein the light-emitting panel widens over

(i) a first widening section from the first edge surface in a direction towards the second edge surface and

(ii) a second widening section from the second edge surface in a direction towards the first edge surface,

wherein the rear wall is provided over the widening section with a multiplicity of steps of which a surface facing the front wall is substantially parallel to the front wall, and

wherein the light-emitting panel comprises, between the widening section and the second edge surface, a light guide part providing bi-directional light extraction.

19. (Currently Amended) A lighting system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the ~~rear wall of the light-emitting panel at the bi-directional light extraction light guide part is provided with a structure~~ multiplicity of steps are configured to extract light by disrupting total internal reflection locally.

20 (Canceled)

21.(Previously Presented) The lighting system of claim 1, wherein a ratio of the surface area S_1 of the first edge surface and the largest cross section S_{lcs} in the light-emitting panel substantially parallel to the first edge surface satisfies the relation:

$$1 < \frac{S_{lcs}}{S_1} < 10.$$

22. (New) A lighting panel comprising:

- a front wall;

- a rear wall situated opposite to the front wall;

- a first edge surface for receiving incident light; and

- a second edge surface opposite the first edge surface;

- wherein the incident light is propagated toward the second edge surface;

- wherein the rear wall includes a structure configured for providing light extraction; and

- wherein the lighting panel widens over a first widening section from the first edge surface in a direction towards the second edge surface, and widens over a second widening section from the second edge surface in a direction towards the first edge surface.

23. (New) The lighting panel of claim 22, further comprising a light source for providing the incident light.

24. (New) The lighting panel of claim 23, further comprising a further light source for providing a further incident light incident on the second edge surface.

25. (New) The lighting panel of claim 22, wherein the second edge surface is specularly or diffusely reflecting.

26. (New) The lighting panel of claim 22, wherein the structure includes a multiplicity of steps having surfaces that face the front wall and are substantially parallel to the front wall.

27. (New) The lighting panel of claim 22, wherein a thickness of the lighting panel is largest at a center of the lighting panel.